Yelahanka on 8th February, 2005. The aircrafts were on static display at Aero India from 9-13 February, 2005 after which they departed on 14th February, 2005.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does to arise.

Enhancing fire-power, reconnaissance and surveillance of Infantry units

2356. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken, specially in enhancing the fire-power, reconnaissance and surveillance of all Infantry units in India;

(b) whether our Army Infantry units specially on our Borders are equipped with human and arms detecting sensors, battle-field surveillance radars, hand-held theremals, various types of rocket launchers and automatic grenade launchers etc.;

(c) if so, the details of those items which are imported from foreign countries and names of those foreign countries;

(d) whether Government has made any efforts to manufacture those items in our country indigenously; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Modernisation of Infantry has been accorded a high priority and it is being equipped with such weapons of fire-power and equipment of reconnaissance and surveillance as are required in its operational preparedness. The steps in this behalf include procurement of state-of-the-art weapons and equipments, transfer of technology with a view to indigenise production and procurement from domestic market.

(b) Our Infantry units are equipped with sensors, battlefield surveillance radars, hand held thermal imagers, rocket launchers and automatic grenade launchers.

(c) to (e) Ordnance Factory Board and Bharat electronics Limited are involved in manufacture and supply of certain weapons & equipments through transfer of technology from certain foreign vendors.